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COLLECTIONS

TOWARDS

THE HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES

OF

ELMESWELL

AND

CAMPSEY ASH,

In the County of SUFFOLK.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY AND FOR JOHN NICHOLS.

MDCXC.

COLLECTIONS

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AND

CAMPSEY ASH

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LONDON

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ST. PAULS CHURCH-YARD

Concerning the Almes-house in ELMSWELL*, given by Sir ROBERT GARDENER, of Pakenham, in the county of Suffolk, knight,
Anno Dom. 1614.

A true Coppy of the Indenture followeth:

THIS INDENTURE Tripartite, made the first daie of January, in the year of the raigne of our most gracious Sovereigne Lord James, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. the twelfth, and of Scotland the eight and fortieth: betweene Sir Robert Gardener, of Pakenham, in the county of Suffolk, knight, of the first partie; and John Hart, Robert Buckle, and John Marsh, of Elmswell, in the said county, yeomen, of the second partie; and Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, of Wolpett, in the said county, yeomen, of the third partie: witnesseth, That whereas the said Sir Robert Gardener hath, out of his charitable devotion and christian zeale and care, and at his only proper costs and charges, founded, erected, and set up, within the mannor and lordship of Elmswell, within the said county of Suffolk, one convenient Almes-house, conteyning five severall roomes, houses, or chambers, and sett and placed the same in and upon one parcell or peece of ground near unto the east end of the church or church-yard of Elmswell aforesaid; and hath also assigned, limitted, and appointed to everie of the said five severall roomes, houses, or chambers, a convenient parcell of ground for a garden plott, and a yard to set wood, and for other necessary uses, in all conteyning, by estimation, neare about half an acre of ground; and hath placed in each or every of four of the roomes one poore aged widdow woman: and in the fift, being somewhat greater then the rest, two poore aged women, likewise widdows; which sayd almes-house the said Sir Robert Gardener hath seated and placed neare unto the parish church of Elmswell aforesaid, to the intent that the said poore aged women during their naturall lives, and all such as should succede them, and now or heerafter placed, or to be placed, in the said house, might the better attend the service of Almighty God. And that, and for a remembrance by whom and at whose charges the said house was builded and erected, the said Sir Robert Gardener doth by these presents ordaine, lymit, and appointe, that the same house, roomes, and chambers, by him so builded, with the before remembred severall parcells of ground, by him so assigned to everie of the same, shall be named and called, "Sir Robert Gardener his Almes-hous." And so for ever to be called, and for ever heerafter used, imployed, and continued for an Almes-house, for the habitation, dwelling, ease, and use, of fixe poore aged

* Extracted from a book in the possession of Mr. Hodgkin, the present rector of Elmswell, intituled, "An Accompt Booke of the Moneys payd to the poore Women in the Almes-house in Elmswell, since the Death of Gardener Webbe, Esq; who payd the poore Widdows in the Alms-house duringe his life. But the Feoffees havinge now the truit since in their hands, they thinke it necessarie to have an Accompt ready to answer all objections which may be made against them."

women, being and continuing widdows. And to bee, from time to time, indifferently, without partiality or affection, chosen and elected out of the inhabitants of the said townes and parishes of Elmswell and Wolpett aforesaid, according to certaine ordinances, limitations, and appointments, of the sayd Sir Robert Gardener, under his hand subscribed, and unto the severall parties of these Indentures affyled and annexed; and that the heires and assignes of the sayd Sir Robert, who shall succeed him as inheritors or owners of the mansion-house of the said mannor of Elmswell aforesaid, at his and their costs and charges, shall, from time to time, ever heerafter, maintaine, uphold, and keepe, the sayd house and houses, so by him built and erected, in good and sufficient reparations, as need and occasion shall require. And the sayd Sir Robert Gardener doth, by these presents, ordaine, establish, and appointe, That the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marth, Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, shall, after the death of the said Sir Robert, be Governours of the said Almes-house, and of other the premisses. And, from time to time, after his decease, together with the new ministers of the severall parishes of Elmswell and Wolpett, and of their successors, with the consent and goodliking of such as from time to time shall be owners and inheritors of the mansion-house of Elmswell aforesaid, to have the nomination, placing, election, and power of displacing of the same poore women, which, from time to time, shal be chosen and preferred to any place in the same almes-house, by and under the lawes, rules, and ordinances, by the said Sir Robert ordained, established, and appointed, and to these presents affyled and annexed, as before remembred. And the said Sir Robert Gardener doth also by these presents ordaine, limitt, and appoint, that as the before-named poore widdow women, or any of them, now placed or heerafter to be placed in the sayd house, shall fortune to die and depart this life, or be displaced for disobeying or not performing the orders and rules, or any of them before remembred, that then, from time to time, after the decease of the said Sir Robert Gardener, for ever heerafter, within tenne days next after the decease or displacing of everie or any of the said poore aged women, it shall be lawfull, and so the said Sir Robert doth ordaine and appoint, that such of the three feoffees, or grantees, and governours of the towne and parish out of which the partie so dying or offending was formerly elected and chosen, for the greater part of them surviving, and to their successors, with consent as aforesaid, from time to time, to name and appoint out of the towne or parish from whence the said poore women, or any of them, so dying or displaced, were formerly elected and chosen, to elect and choose out of the same parish one other poore aged woman of like condition and quallity as the rest not deceased, but remaining, be of: and she or they so newly elected to have, injoye, and receive such and like allowance yeerly as the rest, for her or their mayntayn-ance and releife, as in these presents after is limitted, granted, and appointed, and under such the ordinances, rules, and orders, as the said Sir Robert doth and hath established and declared in the said schedule to these presents annexed and affyled, and before remembred. And for a convenient habitation, and a yeerly sup-
 portation, maintaynance, and releife, of everie of the said fixe poore women now placed, and heerafter to be placed, in the same almes-house; the said Sir Robert Gardener doth, by these presents, give, grant, and convey, not only the house so built as aforesaid, with the ground, and other the premisses, before remembred, and
 for

for such other intents as are before limitted, mentioned, and appointed; but doth also grant, limitt, and appointe, yearly, to every of the said poore women, three pounds and tenne shillings, amountinge weekly to the sune of sixteen pence, to every of them: and monthly for ever to be paid unto everie of them. And that everie of them to have yearly one load of one bond woode, good fire-woode, to be made up for fringe, and to be taken out of or upon his mannor of Elmswell; and to be yearly carried and delivered at the said almes-house in Elmswell afore said, by such as shall be by course of law, or otherwise, now or hereafter nominated and appointed, to inheritt, or succeed as inheritors or owners of his mansion-house of Elmswell afore said. And also that every of the said six poor women shall yearly, for ever, have delivered unto every of them, in, near, or upon, the feast daie of All Saints, called Hallymas-daye, one gowne, readie made, of course blew cloth, or of stufte of like nature, and of value about five pounds. And for the better provision, supportation, mayntaynance, and continuance of the said almes-houses, and sixe poore women in the said almes-houses now placed, or to bee so placed, for ever, accordinge to the purpose, lymitation, and intention, declared as afore said; and *for sure and true payment of the said sumes* so severally granted and lymited as afore said, and in performance of such intended and mentioned purposes, the said Sir Robert Gardener, out of his godly zeale and christian charitie, doth by these presents further give and grant unto the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marsh, Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, one annuall and yeerlie rent of *sixteene pounds* of lawfull English money, to be issuinge, goinge out, perceived, and taken, of, in, and out of, all such his lands, tenements, and hereditaments, situate, lyinge, and being within the parish of *Thebutham*, or in any other parish neere or next adjoyninge, being in the county of Suffolk, and lately purchased of Robert Smyth and William his brother, sonns to one Thomas Smyth their late father, deceased, as by conveyance appeareth; and in, and out of, every parcell thereof, with their and everie of their appurtenances; and to be payd yeerlie, at the Feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Lady the Virgin Marie; and at the Feast of St. Michaell the Archangell; by even and equall portions; the first payment to be made and beginne at such of the same Feasts as shall first happen to come next after the decease of the said Sir Robert. And also, to continue the charitable purposes afore said, the said Sir Robert Gardener doth further, by these presents, give and grant unto the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marsh, Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, one annuall and yeerly rent of *tenne pounds*, to be issuinge out, perceived, and taken out, of his mannors of Elmswell and Wolpett, and in and out of everie part of them, with their appurtenances; to have and to hold the said house, with the premisses and appurtenances; and to have and to hold, take, injoye, and perceive, the said severall annuall and yeerlie rents of *sixteene pounds*, and *tenne pounds*, unto the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marsh, Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, their heires, successors, and assignes, to and for the intents and uses afore said, for ever. And if it shall happen the said yeerlie rents of *sixteene pounds*, and *tenne pounds*, to be behinde and unpaid by the space of *twentie daies* next after either of the said feast daies before limitted for payment thereof, that then it shall and may be lawfull to and for the said John Harte, Robert Buckle,

John Marth, Edward Croffe, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, or any of them, or any of their heires, successors, or assignes, interested in the said yeerlie rents, accordinge to the true meaninge of these presents, to enter into the same mannors, and other the premisses, out of which the same severall annuall and yearlie rents of sixteene pounds, and tenne pounds, are appointed and limmited to be issuinge and paid, and into any part or parcell thereof, to enter and distraine upon the severall places so severallie charged as aforesaid, for such rents, as out of the place charged shall be behinde and unpaid, and the distresse and distresses there, from time to time, had and taken, to leade, drive awaye, detaine, and impound, untill satisfaction shall be had and made of the said annuall and yearly rents so being unpaid as aforesaid, and by these presents granted, and of everie part thereof, with the arrearages. And the said Sir Robert doth, by these presents, further grant, for him, his heires and assignes, That if the said owners or inheritors of the mansion, or mannor-house, of Elmswell aforesaid, shall not make up, and carrie the said fixe load of wood, as before is limmited, that then it shall and may be lawfull to and for the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marth, Edward Croffe, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, and the survivors of them, their heires and successors, yearly, for ever, to cutt downe, make, and carry awaye, in seasonable time and times of the year, the said fixe load of good and seasonable one bond firewood, named and specified as aforesaid, in and upon any of the grounds and lands of the mannor of Elmswell aforesaid, at and in any place, at their will and pleasure, to be cut downe, made, carried, delivered, and imployed, for the use of the said poore women, at the only costs and charges of such the said inheritor or inheritors, owner or owners, of the said mansion, or mannor-house, aforesaid. And the said Sir Robert Gardener doth, by these presents, ordaine, establish, and appoint, that when and as often as foure of the said feoffees and grantees before named shall decease and be dead, then the other two survivinge shall, from time to time, assigne, conveye, and grant over, not only the said almes-house, with the appurtenances, but also the said severall annuall and yearly rents so granted by these presents, unto foure other of the most substantiall and honest men, being freeholders, equally of and out of the said parishes of Elmswell and Wolpett aforesaid, by consent and good likinge of the foresaid ministers of Elmswell and Wolpett aforesaid, and by advice of learned counsell, to have and to hold, to them and their heires, to the use of the said new named feoffees or grantees, and of the other two then survivinge, and of their heires and successors, to and for the use, purpose, and intents before mentioned and remembred; which said foure persons, together with the said other two survivinge, shal be governours of the said almes-house; and they, with the consent of the said ministers for the time being, or the more part of them, with consent as afore-mentioned, to have the election, placinge, and displacinge, of the fixe said poore women, and every of them, which shall from time to time bee preferred and placed in the said almes-house, by and under the rules and ordinances by the said Sir Robert ordained and established, and from time to time to be assyled and annexed to the said new conveyances, which shall be so made as unto these. And that from time to time, as often as any foure of them shall fortune to decease and depart this present life, that then alike a new grant and conveyance, with like assylinge and annexinge of the ordinances aforesaid, to be made and executed in forme aforesaid, of the said almes-house, and appurtenances,

nances, and of the said annuall and yearly rents, to other foure of the like most substantiall freeholders of the parishes and townes aforesaid, and in forme aforesaid; and so to be renewed and continued, from time to time, for ever, to the uses, limitations, and intents, before mentioned. And the said persons, from time to time so to be named, to be interested in the said house, with the appurtenances, and of the said annuall and yearly rents, and to be governours of the said almes-house, and of the persons so placed, together with the said ministers, and inheritors or owners, afore-mentioned, and to have the placing and displacing of the said poore women, and of every of them, from time to time, by and under the laws, rules, and ordinances, before made and remembred. And lastly, the said Sir Robert Gardener doth, by these presents, grant, by him, and his heires and assignes, that for further and more better assurance that the said severall grants of the said severall rents may have continuance to the uses limitted, that if it shall heerafter by any lawfull eviction of the premisses before charged, or of any part thereof, or suspension of the said rents, or any part thereof, so as the said rents may not be paide and continued accordinge to the former intentions, that then and from thenceforth it shall and may be lawfull to the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marth, Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignolds, and to their heires, successors, and assignes, before named, to enter and distraine in any other of the lands of the said Sir Robert, not before charged, for so much of the said rents, as by reason of such eviction or suspension may not be recovered, and so longe as the same shall continue; any thing before mentioned notwithstanding.

In witnesse whereof, unto thone part of these present Indentures, with the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marth, Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignolds, remayning, the said Robert Gardener hath sett his hand and seale; unto the other part, remayning with the said Sir Robert, the said John Harte, Robert Buckle, John Marth, Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignolds, have sett their hands and seals, the day and year first above writen.

Sealed and delivered, in the presence of

William Webbe, Edward Swallow, Giles Bougen.

ORDINANCES and Rules established, ordained, and appointed, by Sir Robert Gardener, Knight, for and touching the government of the poore people now placed, and hereafter to be placed, in the almes-house in Elmeswell, in the county of Suffolk; now by him newly founded, and by him erected, this first day of January, Anno Domini 1614.

Imprimis, The said Sir Robert Gardener doth establish and appoint, that in the said house shall continuallie be placed fixe poore women, widdows, of the severall parishes of the said Elmeswell and of Wolpett, within the said countie; viz. three out of either parish allwayes to continue, and alwayes to be elected and chosen by the feoffees and governors of the said almes-house, in the Indentures hereunto affyled and annexed named and appointed, with allways the consent and allowance as well of the ministers or parsons of the said severall parishes for the time being, as with consent and good liking of the inheritors of the mannor-house of Elmeswell,

well, when he, she, or they, shall be, at such election, of full age, always placing three out of either parish, in manner and forme hereafter to be placed, removed, and changed.

Item, The said poore women so to be elected to be such as, at the time of such election and choice, shall be accompted and reputed to have lived soberly, chastly, honestly, and religiously, and to be aged threescore years, or neere the same, if such may at the time of such election be in the said severall parishes found, and three years to be dwelling in the parish out of which three is to be chosen. And if noe such poore women, widdows, and of such age, or not quallyfied as before is lyimited and appointed, may at the time of such election be found, then such election and nomination to be allways made of such poore, lame, impotent persons, or persons diseased, or sickly, being women unmarried, and quallyfied as before mentioned, and there to have dwelt the time and space aforesaid.

Item, It is further ordayned and established by the founder aforesaid, that none of the said women, so to be named or chosen, shall be a common scolder, drunkard, brawler, incontinent of life, a harboure of rogues, theeves, or idle persons, and such like, or usuall hedge breaker, or to entertaine or lodge any person or persons whomsoever in their chamber in the night season, or to marrie, or contracte marriage with any.

Item, It is further established and ordayned, by the founder aforesaid, that the said women, and every of them, shall repaire upon the sabbath-days to the church of Elmfwell, and there to remaine and continue, orderly and decently, during the time of preaching and divine service there to be used; and further, twice in the week days to repaire to the said church, and there to continue the time of preaching and ordinarie prayer, if any shall be there used; if none, or not used, then thither twice in the said week to resort, and there to continue in prayer by the space of half an houre at the least, and at such days and times in the week as by the minister of Elmfwell for the time being shall be appointed, if sicknes and other just cause of lawfull absence shall not occasion the contrarie; which cause of sicknes, and other just occasion, to be allowed by the said minister.

Item, That the said poore women, and every of them, shall, from time to time, maintaine and keep their severall chambers, with their gardens, walkes, and ground, wherein from time to time they shall be placed, cleane, wholsome, and sweet; and not to begge, or challenge charitie of any.

Item, It is ordayned and established, by the said founder, that if any of the said poore women, now placed, or hereafter to be placed, as aforesaid, or any of them, shall, in life of the said founder, or after his decease, be found guiltie of any of the aforesaid offences or defaults, and shall not observe and performe all and singular the aforesaid rules and ordinances, and every of them before mentioned, according to the true meaning of them, and thereof and therein shall be by the said founder, in his life-time, or after his decease, by his feoffees and governours before-named, and of their successors, or by the greater part of them, with the consent of the ministers or parsons, and inheritors of the said mannor-houste of Elmfwell, before-named, found guiltie, and so by them censured and adjudged, that then it shall and may be lawfull, to and for the said feoffees and governours, or the greater part of them, together with the said ministers and inheritors before-mentioned, from time to time, to remove and put out any of the partys so offending, and by them so adjudged,

adjudged, for her or their places, entertainments, and allowances; and in place of the party or parrys so removed, then such of the three feoffees and governours of the town or parish out of which the partie so dying or offending was formerly chosen, and with consent as aforementioned, make election within the said parish of some such other widdow or widdows, or other persons of such like quality, nature, and forme, as aforesaid, and after such placing, she to have and receive the like allowances and entertainments as the person so removed had, or ought to have had, so longe as shee shall perform and observe the articles and ordinances before-mentioned, and prescribed to be performed.

Item, Lastly, It is ordered and appointed, that one part of the Indenture, being tripartite, shall continually remaine in the common church-chest of the parish church of Elmswell, one other part in the common church-chest of the parish church of Wolpett, there to be locked, and safely, from time to time, to be preserved, for the benefitt and use in the said Indentures mentioned. And the other third part allways to continue and remain with him, her, or them, as shall, from time to time, be inheritors of the mansion-house of the mannor of Elmswell aforesaid, to be preserved to such uses and intents as are mentioned in the same Indentures, or in these present articles. And whereas it appeareth, by the accompt of the sums given, that about twentie shillings, yearly, overplus will remain, all imployments mentioned in the Indentures performed, I doe will, the governors with the advice of the ministers mentioned, shall yearly pay the same proportionable amongst the said poore women, for their better maintainance, six days before the Nativity of Christ.

NOW whereas Gardener Webbe, Esquire, late of Elmswell, deceased, nephew to the said Sir Robert Gardener, became owner and inheritor (by the gift and devise of the said Sir Robert presently after his decease) of the mansion, or mannor-house, of Elmswell aforesaid, with all the lands and appurtenances thereunto belonging; as also all other his lands in the county of Suffolk, out of which the annuall and yearly rents of sixteen pounds and tenn pounds were appointed by the said Sir Robert to be issuing and paid, for the reliefe and mayntainance of the poore women in the almes-house in Elmswell aforesaid: the said Gardener Webbe did, yearly, during his life, pay the moneys due to the said poore women, and buy them gownes, and laye in the woode given them for fireing, according to the first erection in the Indentures mentioned and declared; so that the feoffees did acquiesce, and, during his life, had not any accompt to make concerning the trust reposed in them.

Gardener Webbe, late of Elmswell, Esquire, was buried the seventene day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred sixty-eight.

Given under the hand of Mr. Edward Fraunces, Rector of Elmswell.

SIR

SIR Robert Gardener, Knight, gave, by his last will and testament, to the poore women in the almes-house in Elmswell, an hundred pounds, to be layd out in lands, for their better maintainance, expressed in these words, as followeth:

Item, I will, that whereas I have, by conveyance, conveyed certaine charges or annualties out of certaine my lands and hereditaments lying in the county of Suffolk, for the supportation and better maintainance of a certaine almes-house neere unto the church of Elmswell, in the said county, to the use and reliefe of certaine poore women, now and hereafter to be resident, which are granted to certaine feoffees, or parties, in trust, inhabiting and to inhabite within the parishes of Elmswell and Wolpett; and now finding or suspecting, by some change or alteration of times, the lands so charged with the said rents or annualties may happen to be of so small value, and of lesse in yearlie profitt as may answer and satisfie the said yearlie charge so granted, whereby the good and charitable intended purpose may be defrauded or diminished; I therefore, for prevention thereof, doe will and require my executors, and survivours of them, within two years next after my decease, to bestow one hundred pounds, to purchase either lands, annualties, or rents; and the same, so to be purchased, to convey and assure, by good counsell, unto such of my said feoffees or parties, so trusted as aforesaid, and to their survivors, for the full maintaynance and supportation of the said so charitable a purpose of erection: and to be conveyed to such persons, and under such provisos, limitations, and considerations, as in Indentures concerning the first erection are mentioned and declared.

Dated the first of November, in the sixteenth year of the raign of our Sovereign Lord King James, &c.

Examined by mee JOHN FISKE.

NOW the Executors of the said Sir Robert Gardener (according to the time limited in the said will) did pay the said hundred pounds; and lands were purchased in Combes, in the county of Suffolke, to the value of five pounds five shillings per annum; and were settled and conveyed upon feoffees, in trust, for the benefit and better maintaynance of the poore women in the almes-house in Elmswell, according to the first erection mentioned in the will of the said Sir Robert Gardener, deceased. Yet, nevertheless, the said Gardener Webbe did take the rents and profits of the said land, and did claim it as his due, in regard the other rents held good; and pretended to have a decree in Chancery to that purpose; and so the poore women had no benefit of the same during his life. But after his death, the feoffees then living did commence a suit; and the busines being referred to counsell, it was yielded to be for the better maintaynance of the poore women in the almes-house for ever.

The feoffees then living at the time of the death of the said Gardener Webbe for Combes land, were these whose names are heerunder written:

John Fiske, of Ratlesden, Gent.

Mr. William Fiske of Norton.

Mr. Thomas Fiske of Elmswell.

Thomas Hudson.

Gardener Kettleborough, of Elmswell, Gent. beganne the suite, with the consent of the feoffees.

ALMSHOUSE AT ELMESWELL.

9.

AN accompt of the feoffees for the poore women in the almes-house in Elmeswell, for the moneys given them by Sir Robert Gardener, knight; as also for their gownes and firewoode, from the twentie-fifth daye of March, in the yeere of our Lord one thousand six hundred sixty and nine.

The names of the feoffees now living, for Elmeswell and Wolpett, 1673.

In Elmeswell.

In Wolpett.

Mr. Thomas Fiske.

John Houghton, Gent.

Mr. Robert Fiske.

Edward Croffe, sen.

Mr. William Rose.

John Croffe.

John Thompson.

Combes Land feoffees.

Combes Land feoffees in Wolpett.

John Fiske, Gent.

Thomas Hudson, sen.

Mr. William Fiske.

Mr. Thomas Fiske.

The names of the six poore widdowes in the almes house in Elmeswell, 1673.

Out of Elmeswell.

Out of Wolpett.

Mary Collins.

Martha Smyth.

Anne Woodes.

Anne Jackson.

Rose Steggell.

Margaret Snellinge.

After the death of Gardener Webbe, Esquire, Mr. Thomas Fiske of Elmeswell, one of the feoffees, payed the poore women their moneys, with the consent of the rest, and gave up an accompt to the feoffees the first of June, one thousand six hundred seaventie and four; and cleared all to Alady, 1674, for the first gift of Sir Robert Gardener, knight.

AN Accompt of Combes Land, since the death of Gardener Webbe, Esquire.

The aforeseyd Thomas Fiske of Elmeswell, the first daye of June 1674, gave in his accompt to the feoffees at the parish church in Elmeswell; and there did appeare to be in his hands, at Michaelmas one thousand six hundred seaventie and three, the sume of five pounds and two shillings, which hee doth affirme to be short of the expences and trouble he had about the last suite for Combes Land, which is to be determined and concluded at our next meetinge. And there is a yeeres rent, from Michaelmas 1672 to Michaelmas 1673, still due from the old tenant.

C

Pa'd

Paid to the poore widdowes	} Received of Everfon in parte of the old ren	} <i>l. s. d.</i>	
one pound, and to the rest			1 11 0
of the poore of Elmeswell			0 9 0

eleven shillings.

Mr. William Fiske, of Hardings, was at our meeting appointed by the rest of the feoffees, to take the rent of Combes Land, and to paye it, accordinge to their direction, to the poore widdowes in the almes-house, beginning at Michaelmas 1673.

Now in regard the feoffees have not taken an accompt yeerly, whereby they find many inconveniencies, they have entred into articles of agreement amongst themselves, to prevent miscarriages for the future; which are as followeth:

AT a meetinge, this first daie of June, in the yeere of our Lord 1674, it is agreed by the feoffees of the almes-house in Elmeswell, at the parish church of Elmeswell aforesaid, as followeth:

1. Imprimis, It is agreed, that if the feoffees of the almes-house shall neglect to meete at the parish church of Elmeswell every yeere, upon the five and twentieth daye of March (commonly called Alady daye) or within fourteenth dayes after, to make an accompt how they have payd the moneys given by the aforesaid Sir Robert Gardener, knight, deceased, to the poore widdowes for the yeere past, That then the ministers of Elmeswell and Wolpett, and their successors, from time to time, to examine the poore widdows in the almes-house, whether they have had their moneys payd accordinge to the order and appointment of the said Sir Robert Gardener; and whether they have had their gownes and firewoode as formerly. And if the said ministers, or their successors, shall finde that the feoffees have faithfully performed their trust, then to enter an accompt into this booke kept for that purpose, and to subscribe their owne names as witnesses to the same; and so to proceed in this manner.

2. Secondly, It is agreed also, that if the said ministers, or their successors, find a neglect of the trust reposed in the said feoffees, then to inquire out the parties; and if, upon notice given them, they doe neglect to paye the moneys due to the poore widdows the space of seaven days after the said notice, that then the said ministers of Elmeswell and Wolpett, or either of them, or their successors, shall make complainte thereof to the next justice of the peace within that hundred, or one or two of the commissioners for charitable uses within the county, appointed for that purpose, that a speedy remedy may be obtayned, and the accompt in this booke kept perfect, and the intentions of the donor not frustrated.

3. Thirdly, It is further agreed betwixt us, that whereas five pounds is yearly given to buy fixe gownes for the poore widdowes, that the feoffee, or feoffees, that shall buy them, shall bring a note, in writinge, under the hand of the wollendraper, or partie of whom the cloath was bought, of the price of it, and of the charge of makinge of them, that in case there be any overplus of money spare, that it may be equally divided betwixt the sayd poore widdowes, that the said ministers, and their successors, may have full satisfaction before they sett their hands to the booke.

4. Fourthly, It is further agreed by the said feoffees, That whereas Sir Robert Gardener, knight, deceased, did, by his last wille and testament, give and bequeath

an hundred pounds, to be paid by his executors, to purchase land for the benefit of the poore widdowes in the almes-house, to be settled upon feoffees, in trust, according to the first erection, for a better maintaynance for them; wherewith five pounds and five shillings per annum was purchased, in lands in Colmbes, in the county of Suffolk, to that purpose. Now wee the sayd feoffees, who are concerned to dispose of the sayd five pounds and five shillings per annum, doe heerby agree together, and give our consents, that the feoffee or feoffees that shal be appointed to receive the rent of the sayd Combes Land shal be allowed to paye out of the said rent, yearly, the sume of foure pounds, to be paid monthly; that is to say, sixe shillings per month to the said poore widdowes. And that feoffee that receives the same, to bring in a bille, in writinge, under the tenant's hand, of the taxes and other charges layd out for that yeere; and what overplus shal remaine due to the feoffees of one pound and five shillings, to be paid (as neede shal require) to the sickly, and more aged, and bedred women.

5. Fifthly, and lastly, It is agreed by the said feoffees, that at the death of any of the poore widdowes in the almes-house, that the time of her death be entred into this booke; as also the time of the widdowes cominge in, that shal succeed her deceased, that it may appeare they have not exceeded the time limited for their choice, being but tenne dayes.

In witnesse that this is the agreement made betwixt us, wee have hereunto sett our hands, the daye and year abovesaid.

John Fiske, sen.
Tho. Fiske.
Robert Fiske.
John Tompson.
William Fiske.
Edward Crosse.
Roger Houghton.

Wee the ministers of Elmeswell and Wolpett doe give our consents to the afore-sayd trust repoted in us by the aforesaid feoffees; and doe promise, during our time, a faithfull performance thereof.

In witnesse whereof wee have hereunto sett our hands, this first of June, 1674,
Edward Fraunces, Rector of Elmeswell.
Thomas Fyson, Rector of Wolpett.

Thus far these extracts have been collated with a MS. in the possession of Mr. Edward Smith of Woolpit, at the end of which is this memorandum:

"N. B. The foregoing is a true copy of part of a book relating to Elmeswell almes-house, in the hands of the rector of that parish, as it was taken by me John Major, and afterwards perused and approved by the said Rector, the Rev. Mr. John Casborne, anno 1735, for the use of the parish of Woolpit."

FROM 1674 to nearly the present time, 1786, the accompts and proceedings of the feoffees have been regularly entered, and audited by the rectors of Elmefwell and Woolpit; of whom the regular fucceffion here follows:

Rectors of Elmefwell.

Edward Francis, died in	1679
Francis Browne,	1725
Samuel Gall,	1728
John Cosborne,	1766
Joseph Hodgkin, living	1786

Rectors of Woolpit.

Thomas Tyfon, died	1678
Francis Cockfedge,	
John Boldero,	
Charles Mandevile,	
Thomas Cobbold, living	1786

A few extracts from the proceedings of the feoffees may serve to illustrate their punctuality, and the history of the foundation.

Novemb. 11, 1690.

Memorand. Comb Land is now let to one Charles Bennet, for the yearly rent of five pounds; and there is halfe a year's rent in his hands, which was due at Michaelmas last past. And there was then twenty shillings paid to the churchwarden of Elmefwell for their proportion in Combe lands, which was due at Michaelmas last past. And also all accounts relating to the alms-house examined, and made even to the date hereof, by us

Fra. Cockfedge, Rector of Woolpitt.

Fran. Browne, Rector de Elmefwell.

May the 11th, 1738, Mr. Boldero received, of Mr. Henry Cockfedge of Thetford, two years interest of the 25*l*. in his hands, due the 16th of December last, being money belonging to the poor widows in the alms-house of Elmefwell; and the 30th instant thirty-five shillings of the said sum was equally distributed amongst the said six poor widows, and the other fifteen shillings was pay'd Mr. Cosborne, to reimburse him for payment of the like sum to the sickly widows of the said house, as appeared by his bill delivered in this 30th instant.

In witness whereof, we who are here present, at a meeting for this purpose, have set our hands, on the day and year last written.

John Cosborne, Rector of Elmefwell.

John Boldero, Rector of Woolpit.

John Stockdell,

John Baker,

George Markall,

George Markall, Junior,

} Feoffees.

2*l*. 10*s*.

N. B. In

N. B. In April, 1740, hop-wood, with some timber, was sold off the Combs estate for 5*l.* 10*s.* and in December following, John Baker, a feoffee, received 1*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* for the use of the working-poor of Elmeswell, and 2*l.* 2*s.* were distributed to the poor widows of the alms-house, and the remaining 2*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* were left in Mr. Stockdel's hands of Woolpit, for the further use of the said poor widows.

In witness of the truth of the above premises, we, who are present at a meeting for this purpose, have set our hands, this 20th day of December, 1740.

John Cosborne, Rector of Elmeswell.

William Scott, feoffee.

John Boldero, Rector of Woolpit.

N. B. June 22, 1741. The above remaining two pounds and six-pence were paid by Mr. Stockdel, and the same day distributed to the poor widows of the alms-house; as witness my hand,

John Cosborne, Rector of Elmeswell.

Present also at this distribution

George Markall, feoffee.

John Baker,

March 23, 1747. Be it remembered, that Mr. Henry Cockledge of Therford, attorney at law, having paid into the hands of the Rev. Mr. Cosborne the principal sum of twenty-five pounds, with all interest due thereon, being two pounds sixteen shillings and three pence, which money belongs to the governors of the alms-house of Elmeswell, in trust, for the poor widows of the said house:

We, who are here present at a meeting for this purpose, do hereby absolutely discharge the said Mr. Henry Cockledge of all the said principal sum of twenty-five pounds, and interest due thereon; as witness our hands,

John Cosborne, Rector of Elmeswell.

John Boldero, Rector of Woolpit.

William Scott,

John Stockdell,

Isaac Parrant,

George Markall,

George Markall, Junior,

feoffees.

April 18, 1748. Be it remembered, that the sum of one pound, eight shillings, and six-pence, of the above two pounds, sixteen shillings, and three-pence, interest money, was allowed and paid the said Rev. Mr. Cosborne, to reimburse him for the like sum laid out and paid by him to the sickly widows of the said alms-house, by order of the said governors; and the remaining sum of one pound, seven shillings, and nine-pence, was, by order of the said feoffees, left in Mr. Cosborne's hands, for a supply of the future wants of the said poor widows, as sickness or other necessities called for the same.

In witness whereof, we, who are here present at a meeting in the parish church of Elmeswell for this purpose, have hereunto set our hands, upon the day and year above written.

Witness,

John Boldero, Rector of Woolpit.

Samuel Howell.

William Scott,

John Stockdell,

Isaac Parrant,

George Markall,

George Markall, Junior.

feoffees.

April.

April 18, 1748. Be it remembered, the day and year above written, that the Rev. Mr. John Cosborne, Rector of Elmeswell, has agreed with the governors, or feoffees, of the alms-house of Elmeswell, to permit and let the principal sum of twenty-five pounds*, received of Mr. Henry Cockfedge of Thetford, rest and remain in his hands till otherwise disposed of; he the said Mr. Cosborne paying annually legal interest for the same, and becoming accountable to the said governors, or feoffees.

In witness whereof, we who are here present, at a meeting for this purpose, have set our hands,

Witness,

John Cosborne, Rector of Elmeswell.
John Boldero, Rector of Woolpit.
Samuel Howell.

William Scott,
John Stockdell,
Isaac Parrant,
George Markall,
George Markall, Junior. } feoffees.

April 8, 1749. Be it remembered, the day and year above written, that John Green has agreed with the feoffees for Combs Lands for a timber tree and hop of the same, and the hop-wood of all the pollard trees as has been formerly cropped or lopped, growing upon the premises in the said Green's occupation, he the said Green paying to the feoffees for the same, upon the 11th day of May next, the sum of three pounds and nine shillings.

In witness whereof the parties to this agreement have hereunto set their hands,
John Green, tenant.

Witnesses to this agreement,
John Cosborne, Rector of Elmeswell.
John Boldero, Rector of Woolpit.
Samuel Howell.

William Scott,
John Stockdell,
Isaac Parrant,
George Markall,
George Markall, Junior. } feoffees.

May 16, 1752. Received of Robert Onebye, Esquire, by the hands of the Rev. Mr. Cosborne, seven pounds, and ten shillings, for the use of the six poor widows in Elmeswell alms-house, being the disputed arrear due to the said house, by us

Witness,

John Boldero, Rector of Woolpit.

John Stockdell,
George Markall,
George Markall, Junior. } feoffees.

N. B. The above money was distributed amongst the six poor widows of the alms-house.

Mem. This book was delivered to me by the widow of George Markall (in whose possession it had been some years), June 2, 1770.

Joseph Hodgkin.

* The interest of this sum is regularly brought to account; and the principal was regularly paid off, by small sums annually, as sickness or the several necessities of the poor women required.

ALMSHOUSE AT ELMESWELL.

15

1769, June 8. Received, by Mr Edward Smith, of Mr. Baldwin, for two loads and thirteen feet oak timber, felled from the lands in Combs, belonging to the alms-house in Elmeswell.

Received per Ditto of Mr. Green, for tops and bark,

6l. 2s.

4 4

10 6

June 24. Distributed to the six widows, being part of the above ten pounds six shillings,

4 0

J. Hodgkin, Rector of Elmeswell.

Edward Smith.

William Jackson.

1770. Sept. 24. Distributed to the six widows the further sum of

3 3

J. Hodgkin.

Edward Smith.

1771. March 26. Distributed as above, the remaining sum of

3 3

J. Hodgkin.

Edward Smith.

£. 10 6

The names of the six poor widows, inhabitants of the alms-house founded by Sir Robert Gardiner, in the parish of Elmeswell, as taken Sept. 24th, 1770.

Elmeswell.

Sufannah Day.

Elizabeth Smith.

Mary Southgate.

Woolpit.

Mary Gibson.

Ann Crofs.

Sarah Baker.

Successors to the alms-house.

1771. April 1. Ann Major, aged 76 years, succeeded Mary Southgate, deceased, in the alms-house, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

1772. May 10. Mary Burroughs, aged 69 years, succeeded Sufannah Day, deceased, aged (at aunt) 105 years, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

Oct. 10. Mary Goodman, aged 63 years, succeeded Mary Gibson, deceased, from Woolpit.

1774. Apr. 5. Ozer, aged 28 years, succeeded Ann Major, resigned, as parishioner of Elmeswell.

August 29. Susan Baker, aged 67 years, succeeded Ann Crofs, deceased, from Woolpit.

1776. May 1. Markall succeeded Elizabeth Smith, deceased, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

Oct. 16. Mary Baker, aged 76, succeeded Markall, deceased, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

1777. Aug. 27. Ann Bailey succeeded Susan Baker, deceased, as a parishioner of Woolpit, æt.

1778. March 17. Mary Kemp, aged 76, succeeded Mary Burroughs, deceased, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

1779. Candler, succeeded Ann Bailey, deceased.

The

The memory of the pious founder of this alms-house is preserved by a monument at the east end of the south aisle of Elmestwell church, where he is represented as large as life, reclining his head on his left arm; a book in one hand, his gloves in the other; under him his armour; at his feet his crest, a rhinoceros, which has given birth to a ridiculous story, *that his son* (who is kneeling by him) *was devoured by a wild boar.* The inscription is this:

"In hope and expectation of a blessed resurrection, here is interred the body of
"Sir ROBERT GARDENER, an honourable Knight; who was, in the reign of Queen
"Elizabeth, Chief Justice of Ireland eighteen years, and for two years Lord Justice
"there: in all which time, such was his integritie in justice, his wisdom and valour
"in personal services in the wars against rebellious Tyrone, and the Spanish army
"besieging Kinsale*, as gained him everlasting love and honour in the kingdom.
"And after his returne into England, he was sent by King James into the Isles
"of Jernsey and Gernsey; where having settled their estate in peace and good
"government, he retired into his native home; and, affecting a more private life,
"wholly devoted himself to the good acts of piety, justice, and charitie. He
"founded the adjoining alms-house; and gave liberal sums of money to purchase
"lands for the relief of the poore in diverse towns for ever.

"He married three wives: Anne Cordall, Thomasine Barker, and Anne the
"widow of John Spring, Esq; son and heir of Sir William Spring, Knt. He had
"issue by his first wife WILLIAM, a son of good hope, who died unmarried at the
"age of 24 years. His effigies is placed hereby.

"This noble Knight departed this life Feb. 12, 1619, aged 80 years.

*Solus ille sapiens ac Deo
carus, qui vivens sedulo
meditatur opus suum.*

*Qui posteris prodest,
& se vixisse testatur.*

Arms, Three griffons heads erased. Crest, a rhinoceros.

PART of an article† for erecting a tomb for Sir Robert Gardener,
in Elmestwell Church, in Suffolk.

..... and gracefully as it is in the Plotte and beautifull from
..... as direction shall be given, with two pedestalls, inlayed
with tutch on each side of the arche, as the manner is in the Plott, and on the
top, for strength; and to adorne the worke is to be two pillasters terme wise, of the
reddest and richest raunte, and is to be fairely well pullished and glassed, with two
maskes heads on the freeze thereof, as it is in the Plott. And the spandrells of alla-
baster. And in it is to be two swellinge rounds of tutch, gracefull, and the cor-
ners thereof tryangle wise, of tutch, as it is in the Tutche Plotte, to be well pul-
lished and glassed, with a cherubin in the medle thereof. And a cornishe moulde
of allabaster on the same. And on the topp of all, on the cornishe, is to be the
cheife coate of armes, with mantle, helme, shield, and crest, with deatheaes heade on
the topp of all, with a crowne, signifyinge his happye immortalitie. The same

* The rebellious Irish, assisted by the Spaniards, took Kinsale, 1601; but were besieged by Charles Blunt Lord Montjoy, the Lord-Deputy, and forced to capitulate, Jan. 2, 1602.

† From an original, penes T. Martin, 1751.

coate of armes to be from outter compas twoe foote and twoe inches, besids the wings and garnishinge, with twoe scutchins or sheilds, to be imb orth of allabaster on each side, as it is in the Plotte, with the impalled matche imb cin. This worke is to be eight foote wide, besids the failes of the moulds, and eightene foot highe and every parte to be well wrought, and of good, and of the best and cheifest forenamed. And shall as well and fairly guild all the nayles, buckells, of his whole suite of armor, and all that needefully belongeth thereto, as holbarts, helme, chape, pomell, or helve of swords. The filletts and nayles of his gauntlettis guilte. The end of the pickes guilte; the two epitaphs over the suite of armor, to expresse the mottowe, or meaninge thereof, guilte. The basses, and cappitalls of the pillars here and there, guilte. The budds of the roases in the arche, and the revaylinge about them, guilte, and the face and hands artificioally of the saide Right Worshipfull Sir Robert Gardiner, to be put in fleshy colors, as if he were livinge, and as near as may be to be like to his complection, havor, and smile, with his judge's cappe colored blacke, and his roabe of honor in shewe of scarlett, and his imbrodered cushyon, and the tassells thereof, guilte. And his creast at his feete put into proper colors, and guilte. And soe likewise the garments of his sonne put into proper colors, according as they shall give advice and direction. And his face and hands to be colored fleshye like him, and the tassells and morris worke of his cushion guilte also. All the hayre of the cherubins and hayre of the a scutchins of armes. And

On three black marbles in the chancel.

1. Here lyeth the body of
MARY WEBB, the wife of
GARDINER WEBB, Esq; who died
the 15th day of April,
1659.

2. Here lyeth the body of
GARDINER WEBB, Esquire,
who died the 15th
day of March, 1674.

3. Here lyeth the body
of KATHERINE WEBBE, daugh-
ter of GARDINER WEBBE,
Esq; who died the
30th of March,
1675.

In the body of the church:

Here lieth the body of
HEN. KETTLEBURGH, Gent.
late of Elmeswell; who
died the 18th Novem.
1660, aged 50.

A brass plate, on a flat stone, in the east end of the church, has a merchant's mark. Several others are robbed of their brasses; one of them in particular had a cross fleury.

On the parish chest, 1669.
A. W.

On a small stone is H. H.
1770.

On the septagon font, deeply engraven in large letters, is the word **BADLE**, and three shells in an escutcheon.

Epitaph in the chancel of St. Mary's church, at Bury.

Here lyeth the body of Mrs. ANNE WEBBE,
daughter of GARDINER WEBBE, Esq. of Elmeswell, in this county,
who departed this life the 15th of March, 1674.

D

A true

A true Terrier of all the glebe lands, messuages, tenements, and portions of the tithes, belonging to the rectory and parish church of Elmeswell, in the county of Suffolk, and diocese of Norwich, and now in the use of Mr. Cosborne, rector there, or his tenant; taken, made, and renewed, according to the old evidences and knowledge of the antient inhabitants, this 25th day of June, A. D. 1747, and exhibited in the ordinary visitation of the Right Reverend Father in God Thomas Lord Bishop of Norwich, holden at Bury St. Edmund's, in the county aforesaid:

1. The parsonage-house, with an hall, two parlors, kitchen, brewhouse, scullery, and dairy, barn, stable, hay-house, and neat-house, with five acres of ground thereto adjoining, be it more or less.

2. Also one piece of plowed land, lying in East Field, containing by estimation one rood, more or less; the one end thereof abutteth upon the Sand Lane towards the north, and the other head abuts upon the ground of Mr. Burcham towards the south; the one part sides upon the ground of Mr. Burcham towards the west, and the other part sides upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the east.

3. Also one other piece of plowed land, lying in the same field, containing by estimation half an acre, more or less; the one head abutteth upon the said Sand Lane towards the north, and the other head abutteth upon the ground of the said Mr. Burcham towards the south; the one part sides upon the ground of Mr. Burcham towards the east, and the other part sides upon the ground of Mr. Burcham towards the west.

4. Also one piece of pasture land, lying between the ground of Sir Robert Smyth and the ground of Mr. Burcham, containing by estimation half an acre, more or less; the one head thereof abutteth upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the east, and the other head thereof abutteth upon the ground of Mr. Burcham towards the west; the one part sides upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the north, and the other part sides upon the ground of Mr. Burchman towards the south.

5. Also one other piece of plowed land, containing by estimation half an acre, more or less; one head thereof abutteth upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the west, and the other head thereof abutteth upon the Hundred Way towards the east; the one part sides upon the ground of the said Sir Robert Smyth towards the south, and the other part sides upon the ground of the said Sir Robert Smyth towards the north.

6. Also one other piece of pasture land, inclosed, containing by estimation half an acre, more or less; the one head thereof abutteth upon the ground of Mr. Baldero towards the west, and the other head thereof abutteth upon the Hundred Way towards the east; the one part sides upon the ground of the said Mr. Baldero towards the south, and the other part sides upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the north.

7. Also one piece of plowed land, containing by estimation half a rood, more or less; the one head thereof abutteth upon the ground of John Stockdell towards the west, and the other head abutteth upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the east; the one part sides upon the ground and manor of Elmeswell towards the south, the other part sides upon the ground of Isaac Pammant towards the north.

8. Also one piece of meadow land lying near Cock Street, containing by estimation three roods, more or less; the one head abutteth upon the ground of Anne Markall,

Markall, Widow, towards the west, the other head abutteth upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the east; the one part sides upon the ground of Sir Robert Smyth towards the south, the other part sides upon the ground of George Baron towards the north.

9. Also one piece of pasture land, inclosed, lying and bordering upon the bounds of Woolpit, containing by estimation one acre, more or less; the one head thereof abutteth upon the King's High-way, leading from Stowmarket to St. Edmund's Bury, towards the south; the other head abutteth upon the ground of George Baron towards the north, and sides upon the grounds, in both parts, of the said George Baron.

10. Also two arable closes, being inclosed, lying towards Tostock, containing by estimation fourteen acres, more or less; the one head thereof abutteth upon the King's High-way leading from Elmeswell to Bury towards the south, the other head thereof abutteth upon the ground of George Baron in part towards the north, and in part upon the ground of Mr. John Brown; the one part sides upon the ground of Mary Jackson, Widow, towards the east, the other part sides upon the ground of Richard Mosely, Esquire, towards the west.

THERE are no customs in this parish in the case of tithes but in the Hall Farm*; all tithes being payable in kind, if so demanded by the rector. The particular customs belonging to the said Hall Farm are these; viz. the milk every year of the whole dairy for nine mornings, or else the cheese of those nine mornings made after the best manner; that is, of the right one-meal sort; one good calf, and half a guinea in money, for the tithes of lambs and wool kept and growing on the said lands. The number of acres paying this tithe within the gates of the said farm are eighty-six; viz. Waits' Wood, Waits' Wood Meadow, the two Back Fields, Carter's Close, Dove House Pightle, and Cow Pasture. For Lord's Meadow, Pound Close, and the two Slade-bottom Meadows, are paid two acres of grass fit for hay. Besides these customs, there are no other belonging to the said farm; all the other lands, lying without the gate and belonging to this farm, pay their tithes in kind, as the rest of the lands in the parish do.

In the said parish is an hospital founded and endowed by Sir Robert Gardiner, knight, about the year 1614, for six poor widows, who have each a convenient apartment, a blue gown, and a load of wood, every year, and 1*s.* 4*d.* per week; who are thus maintained out of certain lands lying at Thelnetham and Elmeswell, in the county of Suffolk, in the hands of feoffees, in trust.

The blacksmith's shop, garden, and other lands, in the occupation of Mr. Eastorne, Jonathan Blois, Edward Marsh, and John Wright, to the annual value of 7*l.* 5*s.* were settled by commission for charitable uses, upon the parish church of Elmeswell, for the repairs and ornaments of it; which rents are annually received by the church-wardens. The commission under the Great Seal of England for the aforesaid purpose bears date Feb. 15, 1705; and the award and declaration hereupon of the said commissioners, Oct. 25, 1706. Several parcels of land, to the value of 21*l.* per ann. belong to the parish of Elmeswell, as settled also by the aforesaid commissioners. Four town-houses, inhabited by several poor families, belong to the said parish.

* Containing 237 acres, and a wood of 141 acres. Elmeswell Common (at present uninclosed) contains 188 acres.

In testimony of the truth of the within abovementioned particulars, we the minister, church-wardens, and chief inhabitants, have set our hands, the day and year aforesaid.

J. Cosborne, Rector.

S. C. }
W. B. } Church-wardens.

E. S. }
&c. } Chief Inhabitants.

A true and perfect note, or account, of all and singular the goods, books, ornaments, and utensils, belonging to the parish and parish church of Elmeswell, in the county of Suffolk, and diocese of Norwich.

One silver flaggon, with a cover.

One silver chalice.

One silver patten.

One silver plate, for collecting the alms.

One carpet for the communion-table, of green cloth.

One pulpit-cushion, of the same.

One fine linen cloth and one napkin, for communion-table.

Two surplices of Holland.

Two prayer-books.

The book of homilies.

One large Bible, of the last translation.

Five bells, with their frames.

S. C. }
W. B. } Church-wardens.

*** There does not appear to have been any alteration in the Terrier since the date above.

ELMESWELL is situated in an exceedingly pleasant part of Suffolk, only six miles from Bury, and six from Stowmarket, to both which towns the roads are good. It stands high; the air is esteemed fine and wholesome, many of the prospects are beautiful and extensive, and the neighbourhood in general abounds with gentlemens seats. The church (which formerly belonged to the abbey of Bury) has a lofty steeple, and the church-yard is higher than the tops of the chimneys of some of the adjoining cottages.

An inscription, carved in stone, on the front of the south porch, has been purposely erased. On the steeple is . There used to be in the church-yard a

very large white-thorn, whose branches extended so far, that they were obliged to be supported by a frame of wood-work. It was cut down about 1760.

At a court-baron held at Elmeswell in March 1786, appeared Edward Marsh, aged 90, who has a brother, William Marsh, aged 93. Both these copyholders have duly attended the courts during the greater part of the present century; and their family have lived in the parish 500 years.

"An original description of the manor of Elmeswell, parcell of the possessions of Gardiner Webbe, Esq; (viz.) of so much thereof as doe ly in the parish and bounties of Elmeswell aforesaid, within the county of Suffolk, was taken and made on the ninth of October, Anno Domini 1627, by Thomas Waterman," is now (1786) in the hands of J. Nichols.—The parish contains (by admeasurement taken in 1786) 1880 acres, one rood, 26 perches. There is a good parsonage-house, with proper out-buildings, in decent repair, an exceeding good garden and fish-pond, with five acres of rich pasture.



CAMPESSE, *Camesey*, or *Campsey*, a nunnery of the order of St. Clare, or the Minorelles, was seated in a fruitful and pleasant valley on the East side of the river Deven; and on the North it had a large lake of water, more than 20 feet deep, and about 14 acres in extent, which still abounds with immense quantities of pike, carp, tench, and eels. While the water supplied this house with fish and wild-fowl *, the land furnished the other necessaries of life.

It was founded by the order of Theobald de Valoines, who gave all his land in Campesse to his two sisters, Joan and Agnes, for the erecting of a nunnery there; to the honour of God and the glorious Virgin; which grant, being confirmed by the following charter of king John, was carried into execution in 1204.

“Rex, &c. Sciatis nos concessisse & presenti carta nostra confirmasse rationabilem donationem quam Teobaldus de Valoines fecit Johanne & Agneti, sororibus suis, Deo devotis, de tota terra sua de Campesse, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, ad fundandum ibidem domum religiosam sanctimonialium, in honore Dei & gloriose virginis Mariæ matris ejus, ad opus ipsarum & aliarum que eis adhererent, in servicio Dei commorantium. Præterea concedimus eis rationabilem confirmationem quam Gillebertus Pechie eis fecit de eadem terra. Quare volumus, & firmiter precipimus, quod prædictæ Johanna & Agnes, & prædicta domus, & illæ quæ eis succedent, habeant & teneant prædictam terram bene & in pace, liberè & quietè, plenariè, & honorificè, sicut carte prædicti Theobaldi & præfati Gilberti rationabiliter testantur. Testibus G. Wintoniensi ep. & E. Eliensi episcopo, & J. Norwicensi episcopo, G. filio Petri comite Essexiæ, Roberto filio Rogeri, Willielmo Briwerr, Petro de Stock. Dat. per manum Symonis prepositi Beverlac. & archidiaconi Wellen. apud Westmonaster. xxviii die Januarii.”

The nunnery of Campsey found in after-ages many considerable benefactors. Simon de Bruna gave at one time a certain messuage and four acres of land; and at another time a piece of land lying in Totington in perpetual alms, for the health of his own soul, and those of his father and mother, and other ancestors. John le Strange also, the father, gave to the same nuns, for the same purposes, a certain messuage, called Henepbord, with four acres of land in Totington, and a manor called Stranges, with all his homage, revenue, and services; all which John le Strange of Hunstanton, esq; confirmed and warranted to the said prioress and convent, and their successors for ever. These deeds of gift † were made when Mary Felton and Alice Corbet were prioresses.

Stephen de Ludham (the grandfather, as is conceived) gave also to the nuns of Campesse a piece of meadow in Ludham, in pure and perpetual alms, and free from all secular services and demands. His son William de Ludham gave all his

* The name of *Decoy* is still retained here, though it has long ceased to be so used.

† In 1728 they were in the hands of Francis Canning, of Foxcote, in Warwickshire, Esq.

land in Ludham, then held by William the chaplain, called Finchescrout, to the said nuns, yet to hold of him and his heirs by the annual rent of twelve pence, six-pence whereof to be paid on the eve of Epiphany, and the other six-pence upon the feast of St. John Baptist, yearly. After this, Stephen de Ludham his son agreed with the said nuns, to release them for ever from the payment of the twelve-pence a year for Finchescrout, upon condition that they should for ever quit-claim all their right and title to two pieces of mead in Wickham, then held by — de Hill.

While Walter de Suffield was bishop of Norwich*, there happened a controversy between Sir Robert de Valoines, who claimed the patronage of this nunnery, and the nuns, who denied his title to it. The case was referred to this bishop, who thus decided it: That the prioress and nuns should always acknowledge the said Robert de Valoines for their patron; and as often as there is a vacancy of a prioress, the said Robert shall seize the said nunnery, but without any hurt to their goods, or exercise of any authority, till the nuns have chosen them a prioress, whom they shall present to the said Robert for his assent; which being obtained, the bishop of Norwich for the time being shall order her to be confirmed and settled in the government of the nunnery †.

In 1333 John de Framlyngham obtained from king Edward III. letters patent ‡, for enabling him to bestow his manor of Karleton, and the advowson of that church, on the prioress and nunnery of Campsey, as a maintenance for a chaplain and two assistants, to perform service daily in their church for the soul of Alice de Henaud, Countess Marescal his consort, for his own soul, and the souls of all the faithful: the patronage of the said chaplain to be for ever with the prioress of Campsey and her successors §.

Maud Countess of Ulster, relict of William de Burgh, Earl of Ulster, and sister to Henry Earl of Lancaster, founded in 1348 another chantry || of five priests in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Campeffe, by the licence of king Edward III. for the health of the souls of William de Burgh and Ralph de Ufford, her first and second husbands, and of Elizabeth de Burgh and Maud de Ufford her daughters, as also for the good estate of herself, Sir John Ufford, and Sir Thomas de Here-

* 1244—1253.

† This decree was also in Mr. Canning's hands.

‡ See these at length in Dugdale, Monast. vol. I. p. 490.

§ In 6 Hen. IV. mention is made of William Worsted, master, and the chaplains of the chantry of Campeffs; and in the valuation of 26 Hen. VIII. we find,

Penſio Galfridi Crisp magistri cantariæ ibidem £.8. 13s. 4d.

Petri White clerici ibidem.

Francis Woodhouse.

Thomas Bakeler.

Thomas Parker clerici ibidem.

And in the will-book in the Archdeacon of Suffolk's office, marked I. f. 62. there is a legacy given to the master of the chantry at Campeffs and his brethren in 1528.

|| John de Haketon de Jakelle, the first master, was presented by the prioress Jan. 8 1349. Ib.

John de Aſten was presented by the prioress Sept. 24, 1352.

ford, knight, during their lives, and for the health of their souls after their death*; which chantry she endowed with certain lands in Ash, near Rendlesham, and with the advowsons of the churches of Burgh in Suffolk, and Hargham in Norfolk. In 1357, it being represented to the king, that the noble and pious foundress, having found that the priory of Campsey was too far distant from the village of Ash, where she had proposed to fix her residence, permission was granted to remove the chantry to the manor of Rokhalle, in the town of Bruffeyard; the revenues and site whereof were given, in 1365, to the prioress and nuns of the order of St. Clare there, when the chantry was converted into a nunnery at that place.

Ralph de Ufford, who died before 1348, was buried in the chapel at Campsey.

Robert de Ufford, the first Earl of Suffolk of that name, married Cecily, daughter and coheir of Robert de Valoines. By his last will, dated on the festival of St. Peter and St. Paul, 1368, and proved at Cheryng, 9 kal. Dec. 1369, he directs his body to be buried "à Campasse, desouls l'arche parentre la chapelle St. Nich. & le haut altier, ou le tombe eut este ordeigne †."

Edmund, brother of Sir Robert de Ufford, by his will, dated in 1374, bequeaths his body to be buried near his wife in the chapel of Our Lady within this priory.

William de Ufford, his son, the second Earl, by will, proved at Lambeth, Feb. 24, 1381, directs his body to be buried at Campasse nunnery, "dereare la tombe en quele mes tres honores pierre & miere gisent ‡." He dropt down dead on the steps of the House of Lords, as he was carrying up from the Commons a representation of grievances, containing, among others, that of expence in dress §.

Isabella, his widow, daughter of Thomas Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, who took the veil in this house, by will, proved at London, Oct. 28, 1416, directs, "mon corps à la terre destre enterrez a Campseye joust mon seigneur ||."

**Taxacio Bonor' Tempor' Episcopor' & alior' viror' religiosor' fact' p Ep'os Wynton' & Lincoln', in Arch' Suff' & Sudbur'. commonly called Pope Nicholas' Valor, 1288.

In Norfolk.

		l.	s.	d.
Prioreff' de Campeffe hit	in Gernemut Magna	—	2	12 0
_____	in Hykelingg	—	1	0 0
_____	in Stalham	—	0	4 0
_____	in Stowe de t' r' & f' alim	—	5	13 3
_____	in Saxlington,	—	0	4 0
_____	in Kyrkeby oim Scor',	—	0	3 5
_____	in M'ton,	—	0	1 6

In Suffolk.

Prioreff' de Campeffe hit	in Etone ¹ de redd	—	0	0 11
_____	in Parva Gernemut' de dom ib' et piscar'	—	0	9 0
_____	in Marlinghm ² de ter' & redd	—	1	3 9
_____	in Hachon ³ de ter' & redd	—	3	0 2
_____	in Rēdeshm ⁴ de ter' & redd	—	0	18 10

* Dugd. Monast. I. 491.

† Reg. Wittleseye, fol. 111—114.

‡ Reg. Courtney, fol. 119.

§ Dugd. Bar. II. 49.

|| Reg. Chichley, I. fol. 296.

** MS. penes C. Ord, 1790.

Variations in the Cottonian MS. Tiberius C. 10.

¹ Estone. ² Framlingham. ³ Hathetone. ⁴ Retidilsham.

In Suffolk.		l.	s.	d.
Prioreff' de Campeffe hit in Ayfsh de fris, redd molend' & fetu animal'		10	14	10½
in Tremeleye de redd	—	0	0	8
In Ipswich,	{ in Sancto Laur' de redd	0	5	0
	{ in Bē Mar' de Ulm' de redd	0	2	0
in Buresyerde ⁶ de redd & ter'	—	2	15	8½
in Craneford de ter'	—	0	19	0
in Swyftling ⁷ de redd	—	c	1	11½
in Oreford de redd	—	1	5	0
in Parham de ter' & redd	—	3	10	8¼
in Ryndham ⁸ de redd,	—	1	4	9
in North Glemham de ter'	—	0	12	0
in Glemham P'va de redd	—	0	15	2
in Snape de redd	—	0	3	5
in Blaxhal ⁹ de redd & ter'	—	0	7	9½
in Henstede ¹⁰ de redd	—	0	6	8
in Frostenden de redd	—	0	5	0
in Jokesford de redd	—	0	3	0
in Sutton de redd & ter'	—	0	15*	7½
in Chattisham ¹¹ de redd	—	0	9	0
in Ufford de redd	—	0	3	0
in Lowdham ¹² de teru & fet' animalium,	—	0	13	4
in Wykham de redd	—	0	9	10
in Dallinghoo de ter'	—	0	2	2
in Bradefeld ¹³ de ter' & redd	—	0	13	1
in Bromeswell ¹⁴ de redd & conf'	—	0	5	9
in Peteeftre ¹⁵ de redd	—	0	0	8
in Bulg' de ter'	—	0	1	3
in Debach ¹⁶ de redd	—	0	0	11
in Clopton de redd	—	0	1	1½
in Martlesham & Neuburn de redd	—	0	2	2
in Beling' P'va de redd	—	0	10	0
in Grundesburgh de redd	—	0	15	0
in Keffemer ¹⁷ de redd	—	0	1	8
in Stāham Antegan ¹⁸ de redd	—	0	10	0
in Floketon de redd	—	0	8	0
in Ayfsh ¹⁹ de redd	—	0	2	8
in Codenham de ter'	—	3	10	0
in Wrthm ²⁰ de redd	—	0	4	0
in Burgate de redd	—	0	0	8
in Stowe de redd & pñl' cur'	—	3	6	0
in Combys ²¹ de redd	—	0	16	0

Variations in the Cottonian copy of Pope Nicholas Valor.

⁵ S'ce Mar' de Ulmis. ⁶ Borisgerde. ⁷ Swyftlinge. ⁸ Lendham. ⁹ Blaxhale. ¹⁰ Henford. ¹¹ Scatesham. ¹² Ludham. ¹³ Brendefende. ¹⁴ Bromwell. ¹⁵ Petriſte. ¹⁶ Debath. ¹⁷ Reſſemer xxid. ¹⁸ Stopham Lutegan. ¹⁹ Leys 11s. vii d. ²⁰ Wrthm. ²¹ Campes.

Prioreſſes



Prioresse of Campeffe.

Joan de Valoins, first prioress.

Joanna occurs 13 Henry III. 1229.

Agnes occurs 19 Henry III. 1235.

Bailia de Wachisham is mentioned in a deed * without date; and again 42 Henry III. 1258.

Mary de Wingfield; her election was confirmed May 1334.

Katherin Ancil was prioress 3 Henry V. 1416.

Mary Felton †, succeeded by

Alice Corbet †, and occurs 1418.

Margaret Henham, 1476.

Elizabeth Blennerhasset, 1517.

Elizabeth Buttry, last prioress, died at Norwich October 24, 1543; and was buried in St. Stephen's church, Norwich.

The nunnery was valued at the Dissolution, at £.182. 9s. 5d. *per annum* †.

In 1553 there remained in charge to Galfrid Crispe £.4. *per annum*; and to John Eyer £.35. 6s. 8d. Total £.39. 6s. 8d.

In the annexed plan, A. shews the site of the church, now all in ruins, except the West end, where the walls are three feet thick.

B. The chapel of St. Mary.

C. Is supposed to be the refectory or dormitory.

D. The dwelling-house, built with stone and brick; and the inside supported with prodigious balks of timber, &c. A principal beam in the hall measures 14 inches square. The inner work of the West porch of this house consists of many painted mouldings; and on the sides are demiquatrefoil arches.

The farm house was part of the original apartments; and in the parlour window is a piece of glass stained with the arms engraved in the annexed plate, fig. 1; over the kitchen chimney the escutcheon, fig. 2; on the wooden part of a gable next the mill, "1648. I. L." [for LANE] and the escutcheon as in fig. 3; and in an upper chamber was in Kirby's time the figure of a lady stained in glass (since gone), with the capitals engraved in fig. 4. still remaining, probably to be read *Grace governess*, alluding rather to the divine influence than to the name of a prioress; and at the foot of the horse-block, a slab of white stone, inscribed as in fig. 5. for *Margaret Bonnsfred*, or *Bonnsbed*, one of the prioresses not in the list above.

In this parish are three distinct considerable estates;

1. The Manor-house;
2. The Nunnery;
3. The High-house.

At the time of the great Survey under William the Conqueror, the Lordship was the property of Robert Malet; and is mentioned both as *Campsey* and as *Ash* in several parts of Domesday. Gilbert bishop of Evreux held lands here as an under-tenant, and Briemarus was tenant of the mill §.

The manor of Campsey Ash was, in 1348, the property of Maud Countess of Ulster.

* Penes C. Ord, arm. 1790.

† Stevens' Supplement, vol. I. p. 524.

‡ See the Original Survey, 26 Hen. VIII. in the First Fruits Office.

§ Vol. II. p. 293. b. 326. b. 388. b. 443. b.

In the roll of the ninths granted to Edward III. in 1340, the jurors return, That the ninth part of the sheaves, fleeces, and lambs, in Ash, is worth this year £.8. 6s. 8d. and no more; that the rector has three acres of arable, worth this year 4s. 6d.; value of each acre 1s. 6d.; the rents of assize 3s. 6d.; tythe of hay, with half an acre of meadow belonging to the church £.1. 18s.; the tythe of hemp and flax at 10s.; the tythe of milk with the calves, hens and pigs, at £.1. 10s.; tythe of apples 2d.; profits of mortuaries and burials (*de requestu mortuorum sepultur*), and other small oblations £.4. 0s. 4d.

King Henry VIII. granted, in his 29th year, to John Ever, for the term of his life, an annuity of £.30. 6s. 8d. out of the manors of Wikham, Gelham, Byng and Vallans, in the county of Suffolk, belonging and apperteyning to the late monastery of Campsey, in Suffolk; which manors of Wikeham, Gelham, and Bynge, the said king, by his letters patent, granted to Sir Anthony Wyngfelde, knight, and to the heirs male of his body, and engages to hold the said Sir Anthony Wyngfeld discharged of the said annual rent*.

Henry VIII. in his 35th year, granted to Sir William Willoughby, knight, the site of the manor of Campsey, with the lands belonging to this nunnery, and all the manor of Campsey, and the lands called Valenes, in Valens and Blaxhall, and all the messuages and lands in Haugh, Northland, and Blonnyvile, in the parishes of Hasketon and Parham, in Suffolk, to hold of the King in capite†.

37 Henry VIII. Sir William Willoughby alienated his manor of Campsey, with the appurtenances in Campsey and Ash, with the messuages, lands, and tenements, in Haugh and Northland, in the parishes of Hasketon and Parham, to John Some, gent.; and in the same year John Some conveyed a moiety of these lands to John Valentyne, gent. and his heirs. The other moiety passed to the Lords Audley, and from them, by marriage, to Thomas Howard Earl of Suffolk.

6 Edward VI. William Some conveyed his portion of the manor of Campsey to Robert Vesey and his heirs; in whose family it continued till the 6th of Elizabeth, when it was alienated by William Vesey to William Hunwick; and passed from this family into those of Bull and Danby; and in 1659 was purchased by John Braham, grandson of Sir John Braham, of Braham-hall, who settled here; but that family failing of issue male, it became vested in two maiden ladies of that name; of whom, Elizabeth‡, the last survivor, died April 7, 1788, aged 83.

4 Edward VI. William Lord Willoughby alienated the site of the nunnery at Campsey, with the appurtenances, in Campsey Ash, Lowdham, Rendlesham, and Wycham, to John Lane, gent. and his heirs.

It was purchased of the Lanes by Frederick Scot, who sold it to Sir Henry Wood, of Loudham; and it came, with the rest of his estate, to Robert Oneby, Esq; of Barwell, in Leicestershire; from whom it passed by will to William Chapman, of

* Augmentation Decrees, N^o 4. p. 95.

† Book of Inquisitions penes C. O. 1790.

‡ This lady possessed, among other curiosities, a roll or computus, 28 Hen. VIII. of the Steward of the manors of Campesse, Haugh, Northlands, Blaxhall, Loudham, Petestree, Ufford, Gelham, Harpole, and Bing.

Loudham, esq. (afterwards Sir William) who died Feb. 9, 1785. It was afterwards the property of Thomas Breton, Esq. and Robert Lloyd Breton his son, as heirs-at-law to one fourth part of the property of Mr. Oneby; and was sold by them in 1788 to Jacob Whitbread, esq. the present owner.

John Glover, gent. purchased an estate in the parish, of Thomas Goodwyn, gent. and others, about the beginning of the reign of Queen Elizabeth *; and by Jane his wife, had issue William, Glover, and Dorothy, married to Henry Fox, gent. William Glover, Esq; their only son, was sometime servant to Thomas Howard Earl of Suffolk. He built with brick the High-house near Ash Green; and by Elizabeth his wife had issue three sons and three daughters, viz. John Glover, who died in his father's life time; William Glover; Thomas Glover; Elizabeth Glover; Mary Glover; and Ann Glover. Their father, by his will, dated 30th of October, 1628, devised his manor of Ashmoor-hall to Elizabeth his wife for life, with remainder to William his son. He died about the 16th of March next after the date of his will, and was buried at Ash. William Glover, esq; their second son, was lord of the manor of Ashmoor-hall, dwelt in the house here which his father built, and had issue by his wife, William Glover, John Glover, and Ann Glover. Their father was slain at the White-Hart in Wickham-Market by two persons in 1641; and lies buried in Ash chancel under a black grave-stone. William Glover, esq; his eldest son, sold his father's seat in Ash, with the lands thereto belonging, to John Sheppard, gent. (in whose family it still remains); and removed to Frostinden, where his posterity were living in 1745.

The principal land-owners in Ash are now (1790) John Sheppard, esq; Rev. Samuel Kilderbee, Jacob Whitbread, esq; Philip Edward Braham, esq; Sir George Wombwell, bart. Mrs. Chandler, Nathaniel K. Chandler, Mrs. Whincop, Isaac Allett, and Thomas Salkeld.

The annual assessment of the parish to the land-tax is £.154. 12s. 6d.

In Ash church there are 4 bells. The church is dedicated to St. John Baptist.

The chancel has been lately put in new repair.

Over the door is "S. K. 1788."

In the East window of the chancel, on painted glass:

Three lions of England, a label of 3 points Arg.

Gules, a lion rampant Arg.

Party per pale Or and Azure, a lion rampant Argent impaling

Near the pulpit, is a figure in brass of a priest holding a chalice, under a handsome canopy, the border gone:

"Of your charitie pray for the soule off Sir Alexandre Anglische, sumtyme parich prest of thys church, on whose soule Jesu have merci."

He was rector between 1447 and 1504.

* Both buried at Ash; he, June 28, 1568; she, July 6, 1575. Arms of Glover, Sable, a fess ermine Ermine between three crescents Arg.

On a large flat-stone on the North-west side of the altar:

Arms: Gu. a chevron Ermine between three dolphins naiant embowed Arg.

"Here lyeth interred the body of Edward Blenerhayset, the youngest sonne of Samuel Blenerhayset, of Loudham, Esquire: he died June 1641.

Not that he needeth monuments of stone
For his well-gotten fame to rest uppon;
But this was laid, to testifie that hee
Lives in their loves that yet surviving bee.
For unto Virtue, who first rais'd his name,
He left the preservation of the same;
And to Posteritie remaine it shall,
When brasfe and marble monuments shall fail."

On a flat-stone, half hid by the rails of the altar:

Arms: Sable, a fess crenelle Erm. between 3 crescents Arg.

"Here lyeth interred the body of William Glover, Esquire, who was unhappily slaine July 1641.

Behold in me the life of man,
Compared by Davidd to a span;
Let friends and kindreds weepe no more,
Here's all the odds—I went afore."

On a black marble stone on the pavement in the chancel:

Arms: a cross patonce, impaling 1st and 4th on a bend, three lions faces between two fleurs de lis; 2d and 3d on a pale, a lion rampant.

"HERE LYETH BURIED THE BODY OF MARY, THE WIFE OF JOHN BRAHAM, GENT. DAUGHTER OF RALPH DARNELL, ESQ. WHO DIED THE SEVENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, ANNO DOMINI 1660."

On two large flat-stones there have been brasses, now gone; 'on one of them the figure of a man and his wife, three sons and six daughter.

On an altar tomb in the church-yard:

Arms: Sable, a fess Or, between three talbots passant Arg. each carrying in his mouth a bird bolt of the second. Crest, a lion's head Sable, issuing from a tower Or.

"Here lies the body of John Sheppard, of Ash, in the county of Suffolk, Gent. who departed this life February 14, 1669.

"Here also lies the body of John Sheppard, son of the abovesaid John, who departed this life July 11, 1672."

On upright stones:

"In memory of Sarah, the wife of Philip Wade, who departed this life March 26, aged 69 years."

She was honest in her time; a loving mother to her seven children:

John, Samuel, Sarah, and Mary, she see die,

Also soon after they five by her lie."

Mary Hastings, died March 24, 1714, aged 83.

N. Chandler, died August 27, 1770, aged 76.

Hannah Chandler, died August 14, 1767, aged 6.

Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Durrant, died October 10, 1729, aged 79.

{ Edward Curtis, died December 28, 1718, aged 72.

{ Susan Curtis, died January 16, 1715, aged 61.

{ John Woolnough, of Tunstall, died October 6, 1781, aged 85.

{ Mary Woolnough, died October 4, 1760, aged 62.

John Woolnough, died October 14, 1780, aged 54.

Thomas Chapman, died August 7, 1737, aged 28.

Thomas Chapman, died August 6, 1747, aged 66.

Elizabeth Chapman, died December 9, 1769, aged 86.

Thomas Glanfield, died November 9, 1753, aged 31.

Thomas Glanfield, late of Marlesford, died January 22, 1764, aged 70.

Elizabeth Glanfield, died December 9, 1765, aged 51.

Benjamin Barthrop, died Sept. 22, 1778, aged 27.

Rectors of Ash.

3 Kal. Aug. 1312. Galfr. de Castre ad pref. Dñæ Aliciæ de Hannoniâ Com. Norf.

6 Feb. Joës de Shaftsbury ad pref. Mariæ de Breuse Com. Norf.

23 Oct. 1395. Will. Tyken ad pref. Margaretæ Com. Norf.

1 Jul. 1447. Tho. Brown ad pref. Joïs Vice Com. de Bellemonte.

Alexander Inglishe.

9 Maii 1505. Joës Leycester, LL. B. Commissary General of Suff. vicar of Stoke Neylond, and rector of Stonham Aspal.

2 Dec. 1506. Joës Bredlawgh als Jacob ad pref. Tho. Com. Surrey.

26 Jun. 1510. Joës Hecker ad pref. ejusdem.

Tho. Burgh, he was also rector of Marlesford in 1519.

31 Jul. 1533. Joës Shery ad pref. Thomæ Ducis Norf.

16 Apr. 1534. Joës Hood ad pref. ejusdem.

24 Apr. 1554. Thomas Borough ad pref. ejusdem.

22 Aug. 1561. Joës Aldham ad pref. With Dñi Willoughby.

25 Jun. 1584. Hen. Vounrow.

18 Dec. 1607. Will. Ferrer ad pref. Com. Suffolc.

5 Oct. 1637. Rob. Camborne ad pref. Theoph. Com. Suff. He occurs in 1662.

4 Oct. 1671. Sam. Stubbing ad pref. Joïs Bream gen.

5 Feb. 1677. Edm. French ad pref. Joïs Bream arm.

22 Jun. 1692. Sam. Fenn ad pref. Deborah Bream vid.

1753. Thomas Bishop was rector.

1783. Mr. Stewart.

June 1784. Samuel Kilderbee, M. A. the present rector.

In a MS. of Church Notes in Suffolk, &c. taken by Dr. Sampson * 1661, 2, and 3, in the hands of the late Mr. Warburton, Somerset herald, who lent it to Dr. Ducarel 1754, are Inscriptions at *Campsey* and *Ufford*.

A TRUE and perfect note of remembrance of the Customes of the parish of *CAMPSEY ASH*, in the county of Suffolk, and diocese of Norwich; as appears by divers books, notes, memorials, and testimony of ancient men, inhabitants of the said parish; and continued unto this present fifth day of May, 1662; testified by us the inhabitants of Ash aforesaid, whose names are under-written, as also by the present rector of the said parish.

Imprimis, For every dairy milch cow, having had a calf that year, three-pence.

Item, In lieu of every tenth calf in one year, two shillings.

Item, For every calf that falls under the number of ten, being sold, two-pence.

But for so many as are killed, or weaned, one penny.

Item, For every gait beast and heifer, gait ware and bud, three half-pence apiece.

Item, A hearth hen at Christmas is in full discharge of all fuel burnt upon the premises.

Item, Once in a year, at Easter, every communicant payeth two-pence for his offering.

Item, For fruit two-pence.

For pig and goose the custom is thus: the parson is to have the seventh in kind, allowing to the parishioner a half-penny apiece to make up the number of ten; and the parishioner to allow the parson a half-penny apiece for all under seven.

Mortuaries are payable in the parish, according to the statute.

The parson is to have for a marriage, one shilling and six-pence.

For a burial, one shilling.

For a churching, six-pence.

For every hen, on Good-friday, custom-eggs.

The out-townsmen to have no benefit of these customs, but the townsmen only.

The out-townsmen to pay two shillings in the pound for herbage; and all the rest in kind, as broom, whins, wood, corn, hay, &c. ROBERT CAMBORNE, Rector.

Subscribed by John Brame, Sen. Eliz. Damant. Hen. Chapman. Will. Manship.
Tho. Reynolds. William Hawes. William Winter. Edward Winter.

In the Exchequer. Michaelmas Term, 26 Geo. II.

BISHOP versus BRAHAM, et è contra.

An Extract from the Office Copy of the Proceedings had in the said Cause, so far as regards the Customs of the Parish of *Campsey*, as to the Small Tithes; and a particular Modus established for the Small Tithes of *George Lord's Farm* †.

Thomas Bishop, Clerk, then rector of *Campsey Ash*, filed a Bill against Defendants, to recover the Great and Small Tithes of the farms and lands in Defendant's possession in the said Parish, said to be due to him as Rector thereof.

* Probably the author of the History of Framlingham, printed at the end of Leland's Collectanea, vol. I. p. ii. p. 681. edit. 1781.

† Now Mr. Whitbread's; see p. 27.

Plaintiff in said Bill admits a certain Modus to have been established, and still existing in full force, in lieu of some Small Tythes; viz. for every Dairy Cow, having had a Calf that year, 3*d.* for every 10th Calf, 2*s.* for every Calf under the number of 10, being sold, 2*d.* for such Calves as are killed or weaned 1*d.* each; for every Galt Beast, or Heifer Galt, Wear Buds, 1*d.* half-penny each; a Hearth Hen at Christmas, in full for all Fuel, 6*d.* Fruit, 2*d.* Pig and Goose in kind, allowing one half-penny to 10; and to have but one half-penny apiece to 7.

In Bishop's Answer to the Defendant's Cross Bill, (taken by commission Nov. 1, 1753,) he admits the following Customs, together with the above, viz. Mortuaries payable in said town according to the Statute; for a Marriage, 1*s.* Burial, 1*s.* Churching 6*d.* for every Hen on Good-friday Custom-eggs; Outlyers to have no benefit of these customs, but to pay 2*s.* in the pound for their Herbage, and all the rest in kind; as Broom, Whins, Corn, Hay, &c. And further says, that the above are the several antient Customs used Time immemorial, as to the payment of Tithes and Dues to the Parson of Campsey Ash, in several Terriers returned by the Rectors and Inhabitants, and registered in the Court of the Bishops of Norwich.

A Commission being sent down to examine witnesses; and publication being passed, amongst the proofs for the Plaintiff in the Original Cause is the deposition of John Nunn, *in hac verba*: "To the second Interrogatory, this Deponent saith, "That the Complainant, as Rector of said Parish of Ash, is intitled to all Tithes, "both Great and Small, arising within the said Parish; and particularly to the "Tithes of all Corn, Beans, Pease, and other Grain, Hay, Grass, Clover Grass, "Seed, Turnips, Sheep, Lambs, and Wool, within the said Parish: except only to "the Tithes arising from Six Acres of Land, Parcel of a Close called Peasecroft, "in this Deponent's occupation, which this Deponent believes to be exempt from "the payment of Tithes, both Great and Small, and except the *Small Tithes* arising from the Farm and Lands occupied by the Deponent, called Campsey Ash Abbey; in Lieu of which the said Complainant, as Rector as aforesaid, is entitled "to, and does annually receive, at Christmas, one large Mold Candle, as a satisfaction for such Small Tithes, and except some Small Tithes aforementioned, "arising within the said Parish, for and in Lieu of which the said Complainant is "entitled to the following Customary Payments; viz. for every Dairy Cow, &c. " &c. &c." as in the aforementioned Modus admitted by the Complainant in his Answer to Defendant's Cross Bill.

Nov. 8, 1754. In full Court, *inter alia*, "The Modus in the Cross Bill established."

By the above extracts, taken from Office Copies, it appears that there is a general, beneficial and antient Pecuniary Modus established in this Parish, for and in Lieu of Small Tithes.—That such Modus is on Record in the Bishop of Norwich's Court.—That it has been allowed and established by an Order of the Court of Exchequer, bearing date, Monday, Nov. 18, 1754.—That Six Acres of Peasecroft Close in George Lord's Farm are free and exempt from *all Tithes*.

—That

—That the whole of the Farm which George Lord now holds, being the Abbey, and the Lands thereto belonging, is subject to the payment of the greater Prædial Tythe, but exempted from the payment of any Small Tithes, or any Pecuniary or other Compensation in Lieu thereof, except a large Mold Candle, which has been paid to, and accepted by, the former Rectors of said Parish, from Time immemorial. Several of the inhabitants can prove this Custom; it was a large Green wax Mold Candle, value 1s.; which Candle was usually burnt at the Rector's Tithe Feast, always held, before the time of the present Rector, on Plough Tuesday. The Mold, in which the Candle was made is of great antiquity, was preserved in the hands of Mr. Lord. * Mr. Stewart, the late Rector, refused the tender when made to him in the usual form by Mr. Lord, and flung the Candle into the road; after which time Mr. Lord paid full Tithes for all his Pasture land.

Mr. Kilderbee, the present Incumbent, inducted in 1784, avowed in April 1785, before he received any Tithes from the Parish, that such a Custom did exist; but he being then but lately inducted to the Living, could not ascertain the particulars; but supposed that the Tenant of the Abbey ought to pay him a Wax Candle annually, at Christmas, in Lieu of Tithes.

If a Rector, from Interruption, attempt to destroy a Modus, it may be observed, and held as sound law, "That an Interruption of the Usage for such Time only as shall not destroy the possibility of proving the Custom or Prescription, shall not destroy such Custom or Prescription *."

By a survey of Mr. Lord's farm, it appears to contain 395 acres, three roods, 38 perches. But that survey does not mention the quality of the land; nor how much was for the plough, now much meadow or pasture. In the great meadow, consisting of 20 acres, one rood, and 15 perches, and marked in the above mentioned Survey (39), there was formerly a Patch of land, containing two acres, which was considered as the property of the Rector, and as given in Lieu of the Tithes of the whole meadow. This Patch the Rector sometimes mowed for his own use, and sometimes sold the standing crop. The old poles, or land-marks, that formerly marked out this patch, the Rector has destroyed, all but one. Whenever the 20 acres were pastured, the tenant always paid the Rector 40s. a year for the two acres. Mr. Lord says, that four acres of Peasecroft, (No. 7.), were always exempt from Corn Tithes; that neither Mr. Stewart, nor Mr. Kilderbee, have ever demanded them. That Mr. Stewart, whenever he took Tithe in Kind, always left these four acres un-tithed; and that Mr. Kilderbee has hitherto done the same. That he (Mr. Lord) has compounded with Mr. Kilderbee for one year; and that he told Mr. Kilderbee, at the time of making the Agreement, that these four acres were Tithe free †.

* Price and Mafcall, Trinity Term, 12 James. In B. R. Bullrode, 240 Watson's Clergyman's Law, 512; & passim in the Reports.

† This was drawn up in 1786. Mr. Lord is since dead.